



A boy who stood up for himself? A teenage sports superstar? An African American who changed the face of baseball forever? All of the above!
- Grosset & Dunlap



Build Background

Build background knowledge on segregation, the Jim Crow laws (pg 5 and www.ferris.edu/jimcrow/what.htm) and on the Depression (Brainpop.com's Social Studies Videos).

Build Vocabulary

prejudice
boycott
color barrier pg 86, 94, 97, 100

Discussion Starters



1. Jackie Robinson was leader in the US army and then later banned from staying in a hotel with his fellow teammates during his early baseball seasons in the same decade. What is the contradiction of these two events?
2. What is the author's purpose in writing this story? How does she accomplish this? Justify your reasoning.
3. At times, Jackie wanted to put down his bat and use his fists against the people insulting him (pg 78). How hard is it for you to keep your anger in control and not respond impulsively with words or actions? When you feel anger building what are steps you can take to calm yourself down? If you continue to be provoked what should you do?

Writing Prompt



Even though segregation has been illegal since the mid 1960's do you think racism still exists today? Does racism affect certain ethnic groups, genders, ages, income levels or lifestyles? Is it in schools, communities, public places, and nation wide? Does the availability of technology enhance racism? Conclude by stating your opinion on the urgency of ending racism and give suggestions as to how this can be accomplished.

Activities



Pinpoint Georgia and California on a map and discuss how these locations could have meant totally different lifestyles for African Americans in the 1920's. Then jump to 1942, find Kansas and Texas on a map, and discuss how these two locations meant totally different things for Jackie while serving in the army (refer to chpt 1 and 6).

Jackie's Timeline Using the printable as a guide, have each student create an illustrated timeline beginning with Jackie as a baby and ending with his first pitch in the 1972 World Series. They can put a stop sign at every roadblock he faced and an arrow to show how he found a way to reach his goals.



More Resources

- Accelerated Reading Quiz: 141837
- www.jackierobinson.org/about/jackie.php

BIG IDEAS To Reinforce



Acceptance, Role Model, Generosity, Integrity

Student-Friendly Learning Target



I can use demographics and societal beliefs to explain the treatment of different ethnic groups in history. I can use a maze to represent the roadblocks and advancements in Jackie Robinson's life. I can use my understanding of racism and segregation to express my opinion about modern racism.

Aligned to Common Standards

Every lesson plan aligns with grade-level standards in **Reading, Writing, Speaking & Listening and Literacy**.
Every lesson plan supports **ASCA Mindsets & Behaviors**.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Identify several of Jackie Robinson's major goals. Then identify the roadblocks he encountered on his way to these goals. Lastly, explain how he made his way around them and accomplished his goals. Include the year of each goal.

GOAL

ROADBLOCK

WAY AROUND

